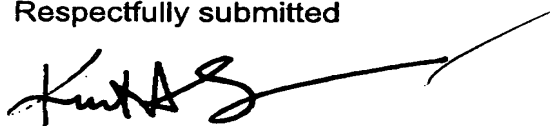


Serial No. 09/583,486
Examiner Joseph Moy
Art Unit 3727

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the claims 1-18 are allowable over the reference of Bradford et al. '119 as cited by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request an indication of the allowability at the Examiner's earliest convenience. If any issues remain in the case which might be handled in an expedited fashion, such as through an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is certainly encouraged to telephone the Applicants' undersigned representative.

If any further charges or credits are necessary in this case, please apply them to Deposit Account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted



Kurt A. Summe, Reg. No. 36,023

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